

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 689

By Norris

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Stephen C. Reynolds on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in honoring a gentleman who has contributed significantly to improving the quality and availability of health care during his forty-four years in the industry; and

WHEREAS, Stephen C. Reynolds, president and chief executive officer of Baptist Memorial Health Care in Memphis, announced that he is retiring in May 2014; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Reynolds has been highly regarded in the national, regional, and local business and health care communities for both his accomplishments and his personal character; and

WHEREAS, under his guidance, Baptist Memorial has grown to become the Memphis area's largest not-for-profit health care system and one of the top-rated integrated health care delivery systems in the country; he achieved these goals while keeping the organization true to its not-for-profit mission, which mirrors the three-fold ministry of Christ: preaching, teaching, and healing; and

WHEREAS, after receiving his Bachelor of Science degree from Arkansas State University, Mr. Reynolds earned his Master of Health Administration degree from the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, and then served as an officer in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Mr. Reynolds was selected to serve as an administrative resident at Baptist Medical Center in Memphis; he then held a number of leadership positions for twenty-three years before he was chosen to lead the organization in 1994; and

WHEREAS, for the past twenty years, Mr. Reynolds has overseen a complex and far-reaching health care system at Baptist Memorial, one that includes fourteen hospitals in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, as well as minor medical centers, home care and hospice programs, behavioral health centers, clinics, and a number of other entities; and

WHEREAS, during Mr. Reynolds' exemplary tenure, Baptist has added many advanced services and facilities to serve the Mid-South, including the Baptist Medical Group, which has grown to include 550 physicians and is one of the Memphis area's largest physician groups; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Reynolds' singular leadership, Baptist Memorial built two additional metro-Memphis hospitals, the Memphis area's first residential hospice facility, a cancer center at Baptist Union City, and the Baptist College of Health Sciences, which, to date, has prepared more than 1,000 people to enter health care careers. Construction is underway on a new pediatric emergency department at the Baptist Women's Hospital and the Mid-South's first integrated cancer center, both of which will be located on Baptist Memorial's flagship campus in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Baptist Memorial also renewed its commitment to community service under Mr. Reynolds' astute leadership; in 2003, Baptist established its signature community outreach program, the Baptist Operation Outreach mobile health care clinic for the homeless, which is instrumental to Baptist's role as Memphis' largest homeless health care provider; and

WHEREAS, not long after making the difficult decision to close Baptist Memorial's original downtown hospital campus, Mr. Reynolds approved the donation of that property and land to the University of Tennessee (UT) and the Memphis Bioworks Foundation; the largest gift in UT's history, the donation paved the way for the development of a biotech industry in Memphis and the revitalization of Memphis' medical center district; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Reynolds gives back to the community on a personal level through his participation in several worthy organizations; he has chaired a number of regional and national health care organizations, including the Tennessee Hospital Association, CEOs Against Cancer, the Healthcare Institute, the National Quality Forum's National Patient Safety Task Force, and

the National Committee for Quality Health Care; and he is a past chairman of the board of the Memphis-area Better Business Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, Memphis chapter of the American Heart Association, Dixon Gallery and Gardens, and Memphis Tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, he currently serves as board secretary of Ducks Unlimited, Inc., a member of the University of Memphis Board of Visitors, and on the boards of Trezevant Manor, Memphis Tomorrow, and Dixon Gallery and Gardens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Reynolds has been honored for his leadership in the health care industry by the Tennessee Hospital Association, the American College of Health Care Executives, Washington University School of Medicine, B'nai B'rith, Arkansas State University, the Arkansas State University School of Business, Arkansas State University's chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, Rotary International, and the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Stephen C. Reynolds has made significant contributions to the local, regional, and national health care communities for the past twenty years through hard work, innovation, and keen business sense, helping to bring high-quality health care and financial stability to the Mid-South while making a total economic impact of \$2.6 billion on the communities Baptist serves; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Reynolds has proudly continued Baptist Memorial's tradition as a health care pioneer that has provided much needed services to the Mid-South throughout its 101-year history; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Stephen C. Reynolds, president and chief executive officer of Baptist Memorial Health Care, on the occasion of his retirement, salute his outstanding career in health care administration, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.